

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 183612

INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PBOR

SUBJECT: GUIDANCE ON PRESIDENT'S OAS STATEMENT ON
TERRITORIAL DISPUTES IN LATIN AMERICA

1. THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE IS PROVIDED SHOULD HOST
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS RAISE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING
THE MEANING OF THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ON THE USG
ROLE IN TERRITORIAL DISPUTES IN HIS JUNE 21 SPEECH
TO THE OASGA:

(1) THE PURPOSE OF PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT WAS TO
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EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THE PEACEFUL
RESOLUTION OF TERRITORIAL DISPUTES IN THIS HEMISPHERE
THROUGH DISCUSSION AMONG THOSE DIRECTLY INVOLVED,
AND THE PRESIDENT'S HOPE THAT THE CANAL TREATIES
MIGHT PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE FOR OTHER NATIONS AS THEY
ADDRESS SIMILAR PROBLEMS. THE SPEECH SIGNED A
NEW READINESS TO BE HELPFUL ALONG WITH OTHER NATIONS

AND ORGANIZATIONS (UN, OAS) IN TRYING TO RESOLVE THOSE
DISPUTES.

(2) THE PRESIDENT'S MENTION OF THREE TERRITORIAL
DISPUTES WHICH HAD BEEN THE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION
IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (EL SALVADOR-HONDURAS,

BELIZE, AND BOLIVIAN ACCESS TO THE SEA) WAS
INTENDED TO BE ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE PROBLEM IN
THE HEMISPHERE AND TO ACKNOWLEDGE OUR DEEP
INTEREST IN FACILITATING A SATISFACTORY
RESOLUTION AMONG THE PARTIES. IT OBVIOUSLY
WAS NOT INTENDED TO BE AN EXHAUSTIVE LISTING
OF CURRENT DISPUTES

(3) SIGNIFICANCE OF SPEECH IS THAT IT HERALDS A
STRONG STATEMENT OF U.S. POLICY, AND IS A CLEAR
INDICATION OF U.S. INTEREST IN THE GENERAL SUBJECT
OF PEACEKEEPING IN THE HEMISPHERE EXTENDING TO THE
HIGHEST LEVEL.

2. QUITO AND BUENOS AIRES HAVE REPORTED HOST
GOVERNMENT INTEREST IN THIS SUBJECT. OTHER POSTS
ARE NOT BEING REQUESTED TO SOLICIT COMMENT ON ISSUE
BUT SHOULD REPORT IF HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
COMMENT ON SPEECH OR ON GENERAL U.S. APPROACH TOWARD
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RESOLUTION OF TERRITORIAL DISPUTES. CHRISTOPHER

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